

With the Musicians

By HERNIOT THOMPSON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 12.—There are two opinions regarding the concert which it was best for American composition to take in the future. One was expressed by John Knowles Paine, of Harvard, a veteran American composer, who has done much for the development of music in this country. It was on the occasion of the unveiling of the Wagner monument in Berlin last October. Mr. Paine had been invited to attend the ceremony and deliver a speech. In the course of his remarks he said that through German supremacy in music the strict national limits of musical style had been greatly modified. It was no longer a question of purely German, Italian, French, Slavonic or Anglo-Saxon music, he stated, but cosmopolitan music. No doubt, he thought, certain national characteristics would continue to exist, but he believed in future composers would be distinguished more by their individuality of style than by nationality, or what is called "color."

A decidedly opposite view of the case is entertained by Mr. Oscar G. Sonneck, musical historian, lecturer and critic of Washington, D. C. In a recent issue of "The Music," a monthly musical magazine, he published an article in which he pointed out that the only salvation for American composition is the avoidance of musical Volapuk by our composers and the pursuit of a distinctly national style. He has no new composer, writes Mr. Sonneck, who may call distinctly American, none who reveals the ideals of our people in music as our poets have done it in poetry. Our composers possess a technique equal to that of European masters, but only now and then does the manner in which they attack and follow their themes prove them to be independent, unaffected Americans instead of the slaves of Europe. Their scores abound with international reminiscences, and it is in vain that their individuality attempts to break through the mass of academic formulas. It is not a lack of talent, but the deplorable blood-diluting injection of a musical Volapuk that has prevented America so far from that to the world such typically national masters as Brahms, Bizet, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius.

Mr. Francis McMillan, a young American violinist, who scored a triumph recently first in a concert with orchestra, and then in recital with piano-forte accompaniment, is a native of Ohio. He studied in Chicago with Bernard Lantieri and then at the Brussels Conservatory under Cesar Thomson. At his recital, Mr. McMillan brought forward some violin pieces of the seventeenth century, among which was a "Ciaccona" by Vitali. His rendering of this composition evoked the warmest commendations, and it is said to have played every thing well, excelling in beauty of tone, accuracy of intonation and phrasing. The fact that his first programme contained three concertos did not mar the good impression he made on the British. We would advise him, however, not to try a similar plan in this country.

Kubelick has left England and has started on a concert tour through Holland, Germany and Russia.

Eugen d'Albert has written a new music drama, "Tiefenland," which has had its "coming out" at Prague. The critics aver that the work lacks originality, being reminiscent of both Wagner and Mascagni.

Theodore Thomas' Chicago Orchestra celebrated the centenary of Hector Berlioz last Friday and Saturday by devoting their entire programme to the works of the French master. The selection included the overture to "Benvenuto Cellini," "Requiem" and "Aria from 'Les Troyens,'" the "Symphonie Fantastique," and "The Love Scene from 'Roméo et Juliette,'" "Invitation," "Minuet," "Dance of the Sylphs," "Romance (vocal)" "My Heart With Grief is Heavy" and the "Rococo March" from the "Damnation of Faust." The fears which were entertained as to the future existence of this orchestra were set aside by the benevolent action of a few Chicagoans who stepped forward at the last moment and guaranteed an amount sufficient to enable the continuation of the concert for a limited period. The final decision is to be made on December 25th, and great efforts are being made to obtain pledges for the required amount before that day arrives.

Elr Hubert Parry, whose fame as an English composer appears to have been temporarily overshadowed by the tremendous successes of Edward Elgar, conducted a performance of his symphonic ode, "War and Peace," and his better known and more effective "Blest Be of Sirens" for chorus and orchestra in London on November 26th.

Under the direction of Felix Weingartner, the Kaim Orchestra of Munich will perform in several European cities a symphonic poem left by the unfortunate composer, Hugo Wolf. The cities favored will be Munich, Nuremberg, Stuttgart, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Berlin, Vienna, Prague, Teplice, Hannover, Bielefeld and Rostock.

In a fourth edition of Lavignac's excellent work, "Music and Musicians," the announcement is made that the book has been revised and a supplement by Mr. Henry Krehbiel added thereto. In spite of this announcement the chapter devoted to American music is not at all up-to-date. Of the composers mentioned in the name of Edward MacDowell, for example, his greatest and most characteristic works—those which have gained for him the important position he now holds in the roster of American composers—are not mentioned. His piano sonatas, the "Woodland Sketches," "Sea Pieces," etc., are omitted from the list, although these are the first to occur to anyone familiar with his works. The name of Mrs. H. H. A. Beach, the greatest woman composer of America, does not appear anywhere in the book. The fact that she has composed an excellent symphony, a mass, piano concerto, and other large works, many of them for orchestra, should entitle her to some slight notice in any chapter or essay in which the most notable composers of this country are enumerated, and it is to be regretted that such was not the case in the new edition of this book.

The protests which Londoners have been making lately in consequence of the custom of keeping late-comers at concerts out in the cold during the performance of the several movements or sections constituting the first number on the programme, resulted curiously in a recent recital by the celebrated Italian pianist, Busoni. The attendance at his concert was exceedingly large, and there were an unusual number of tardy ones on this occasion. Busoni, having been made aware of the confusion, paused in the middle of Chopin's B Flat Minor Sonata, which he was playing, allowed the clamorers to be admitted, and when quiet was restored, he played the first two movements of the sonata a second time, finishing the work without an interruption.

Siegfried Wagner is an example of the fate which befalls the son of a great man. As he is not only the son of Wagner, but also the grandson of Liszt, he has suffered more than his just portion. At the first of the November concerts in Stuttgart this season the overture and waltz from his successful opera, "Herzog Wolfang," were performed.

One critic wrote after the concert: "After all three imposing pages of Siegfried Wagner's music do not appear so very feeble. This music has been heard at Leipzig and Dresden before, and it contains nothing new, but we listen to it with respect because it was written by the son of Wagner and the grandson of Liszt."

A Fortune in Milk.

Last Summer, a woman drove fifty-five cows into Thunder Mountain, Wyo. Each cow was loaded with a pack, containing provisions, etc. The woman remained in Thunder Mountain four and half months, and made \$1,800 clear money. She sold her milk for 25 cents a quart.

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Bapello, 10c, size..... 8c	New Grapes, 2 pounds..... 8c	California Peaches (Yellow Crow-ford) per can..... 35c	Sultana Seedless Raisins..... 25c
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It always takes us four years to square ourselves after every Christmas. H. T.

MAN ABOUT TOWN. JOTS FROM JETTERVILLE. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

JETTERVILLE, VA., Dec. 10.—The Handic Factory operated by R. B. Warriner & Co., of this place, is turning out a most excellent grade of hickory axe and hatchet handles.

There are eight saw mills in active operation within a radius of four miles of this place. Large quantities of pine and oak are being sawed, and the lumber shipped to Richmond as fast as it can be loaded on cars.

Less of rubber tires, fire-wood, poplar timber, and cedar posts are also shipped from this place.

Messrs Pettit and Monday, of New York city, are at Mr. R. B. Warriner's for a two weeks' hunt.

Charles W. French, of this place, a three-legged calf about five months old and a pig about the same age which has undivided hoofs.

He proposes to send them to the St. Louis Exposition.

Metaphor Doesn't Fit. "How the Topeka papers will howl!" exclaims the Hutchinson News, "at Tom Anderson when they see the deep dye of his villainy coming up through the roots of his hair." The principal defect with this figure of speech is the fact that Mr. Anderson has for fifty years been as bald as a billiard ball.—Kansas City Star.

Account Southern Educational Association, Atlanta, Ga., December 29, 1932, January 1, 1934.

On account of the above occasion the Seaboard will suspend service on the Atlantic coast line to Atlanta and return at rate of one fare, plus \$2.25, which includes membership fee. Tickets on sale December 29th, final limit January 8, 1934. For tickets and other information, apply to the undersigned.

H. S. LEARD, District Passenger Agent, Richmond, Va.

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CUT FLOWERS. Roses, Carnations, Violets, Mums, Lily of Valley, in large quantity, at MANN & BROWN'S, 10 N. West Broad Street.

Then the spirit of Santa Claus hovered about, and the one who was among the forgotten things of life.

Thereupon it fell to us to feed him, and as we are at home only between the hours of 8 and 5 A. M., we keep neighborhood windows during those hours in our efforts to feed that opossum with shavings, potato peelings and apple cores. Anybody wants this beautiful pot can get him.

We are now preparing ourselves for the annual outlay of a large sum of money on Christmas presents.

Every year about this time we begin to get our friends and to picture to them the most desirable presents to give them.

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